

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF ALABAMA  
EASTERN DIVISION

UNITES STATES OF AMERICA	)	
	)	
v.	)	CASE NO. 3:16-CR-136-WKW
	)	[WO]
ROBERT M. RITCHEA	)	

**ORDER**

Defendant Robert M. Ritchea has filed a *pro se* motion for compassionate release, which is construed as a motion to modify an imposed term of imprisonment pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3582(c)(1)(A). (Doc. # 54.) Under § 3582(c)(1)(A), a district court may modify a convicted defendant's sentence when "extraordinary and compelling reasons warrant such a reduction." However, a defendant may only move for such a reduction after he or she "has fully exhausted all administrative rights to appeal a failure of the Bureau of Prisons to bring a motion on the defendant's behalf or [after] the lapse of 30 days from the receipt of such a request by the warden of the defendant's facility, whichever is earlier." § 3582(c)(1)(A). Defendant's motion does not indicate that he has pursued the statutorily mandated procedure, so his motion is premature at this time.

Accordingly, it is ORDERED that Defendant's motion (Doc. # 54) is DENIED without prejudice with leave to refile his motion, if necessary, after he has exhausted his administrative rights.

DONE this 23rd day of April, 2020.

/s/ W. Keith Watkins

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UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE